



# CHARLOTTE WOODCARVERS CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 41 #3/March 2022

## From the President

### Spring is Upon Us



**W**hile it feels like summer already it can't be, because we haven't had our SHOWCASE yet. Just one month and two weeks to go.

The teams are working harder than ever, and amazing things are happening. Keith Jones and Steve Stillitano have been making an unbelievable effort reaching out to companies far and wide to fill the raffle table and silent auction with donations that will stun you and make you wish you had spent more money on

raffle tickets. (Hint: even NASCAR has contributed!).

Steve Stillitano and Bob Warner are selling raffle tickets like crazy. (NOTE: you have until March 15<sup>th</sup> to get in on the early discount action.)

Everyone should remember our Showcase is the largest in the southeast and it takes a huge effort from every member who can volunteer to make it a SUCCESS. We all must work first and spectate second. So come on out, we need everybody. If you can't contribute with the labor then carve like never before and enter the competition. You can also help Steve build the best raffle with donations of your work to the raffle. There are many ways to help.

*Showcase  
Woodcarvings*

**OUR SHOWCASE IS THE  
LARGEST IN THE  
SOUTHEAST**

Continued on the next page

## Table of Contents

From the Editor .....	3
What we doin' .....	4
Announcements .....	6
Showcase News.....	7
Club Officers.....	8

## President's message continued

Finally at the Showcase we will be able to promote next year's Show Theme thanks to Rod Gatlin, Rocky Paiano, and Jim Horn. They worked together for a month, to create a theme that will test your imagination and carving skill. "Birds of a feather, flock together" is the 2024 Theme.

March is Election month for the club and the Vote to elect new officers for the next year and one new Board member will take place on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 1 p.m. I have spoken to all the current officials including Lee Servatius who filled as the 3rd board member to end this year and they will all have agreed to run again along with any new nominations that come in during March. So please nominate any others who would like to serve the club for next year at the regular Tuesday meeting prior to March 28, 2023.

Keep Carving  
Bob Gerbe, President  
Charlotte Woodcarvers Club

# 40th

It's a big deal

Rocky Paiano is distributing the new short sleeve T-Shirts. If you have placed an order and you come on Tuesdays you can pay for your shirts while at the Club.  
If you live out of town, you can pickup your shirts at the Showcase.  
Please get your shirts as early at the show as possible. A Friday pickup would be greatly appreciated.



Show Theme  
this year is  
"First  
Responders"

Carving by  
Peter Ortel



Neil McGuire  
Editor

# From the Editor

## Editorial Thoughts for March

*This is a little different this month. Bob had some really good information in his column that I transferred to mine. He writes:*

“I would like to start something new and bring value to everyone. I think the following two tips are especially timely as we move into our Showcase and recruit new carvers to our club and the art of carving. These two tips come From Steve Prescott in *Woodcarving Illustrated*, Holiday 2008.”

### Tip #1: Sharp Tools

Nothing is more important to a carver than the ability to sharpen tools effectively. It does not matter how much knowledge, skill or inspiration you have if you are trying to carve with dull tools. Sharpening is difficult and boring work. Practice until you perfect the necessary skills. Don't switch with every new system that comes along. Find a system that suits you and stick with it.

### Tip #2: Buy individual tools

Don't buy tools in sets because some tools will not be used. Buy tools individually as you discover a specific need. Most of us have way too many tools. I have been buying carving tools for 25 years and still buy more tools at every show. I find the longer I carve, the fewer tools I use. New tools come factory sharp, but are rarely carving sharp. Be prepared to work on the new tools yourself or insist that the retailer sharpen the tools before you purchase them.

Bob continues:

“The knife in our clubs beginner kit is “carving sharp’. Done by our retailer Bob Stadlander.

“I have asked Bob Warner to teach a sharpening class after the Showcase.

ps. The new carvers classes will begin on May 2, 2023. Sharpening is one of the five (5) classes to be taught.



# What we doin'



Steve Stillitano and Santa's



Mark Cable working on a face



Jerry Demauro working on a plate



Keith Jones and a bark house



Vince Avalos and a dog



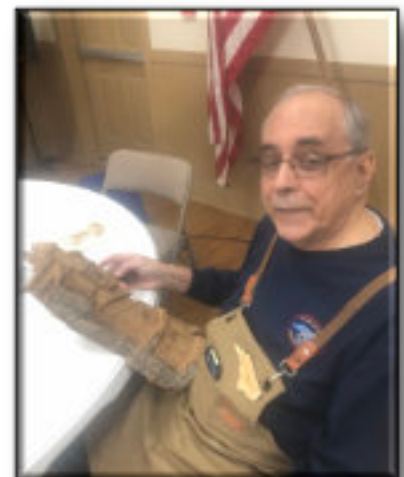
Bill Robinson wood burning



Malcolm Mize working on a Whale



Paul DesRosiers starting a Candlestick project



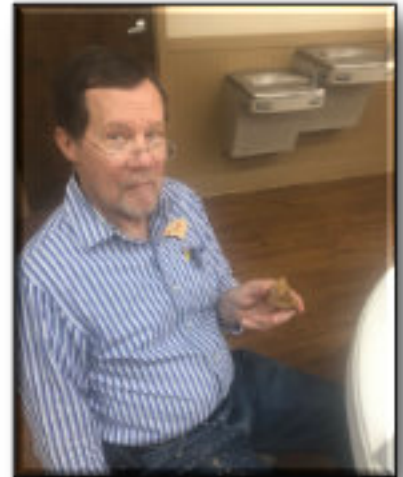
Rocky Paiano and a bark house



Norm Stephens  
working on a bird



Vernon Jones spoon  
carving



Don Reirson carving a  
small sailboat



The Choir, 2017 Best of  
Show by Peter Ortel

# Announcements

The 40th Showcase of Woodcarvings

April 14-16, 2022 Show

Theme is: First Responders

*Club dues will be due for next year by the end of May and can be paid with your Show registration.*

## Weekly Carving Meetup

- Club carving on Tuesdays from 9am to 6pm. Come when you can, leave when you must.
- We carve at the Cathcart Center, Carmel Presbyterian Church

## Calendar

Mar 15-16	Rod Gatlin caricature class
March 28	Election of Officers
April 1	Pyrography in Hickory
April 4	First training class
April 11	Second training class
April 14-16	40 <sup>th</sup> Annual Showcase of Woodcarvings
July 11	Sumer Picnic
Aug. 14-20	Wild Acers



# Showcase News

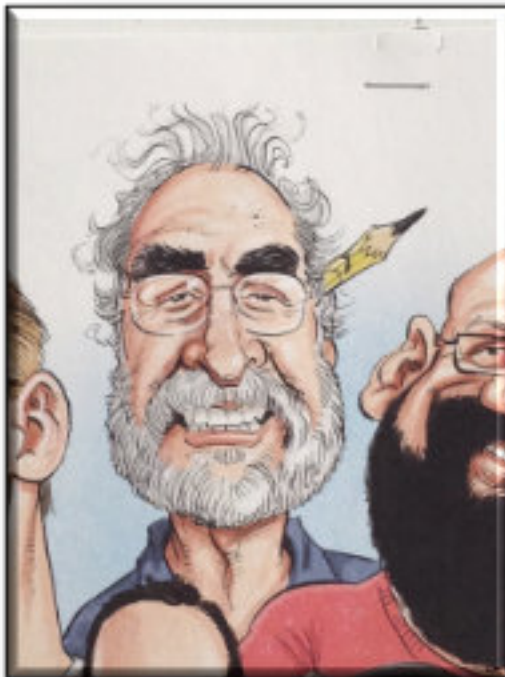
As of today, we have 49 registrants for the Showcase of Woodcarvers. That is about 1/3 of those we expect to participate.

It would be great, if you haven't already registered, if you would pre-register. The process is simple. Simply follow this [link](#) to the registration page. Then simply fill out the form. The last item is payment method. You can pay by cash, check or credit card. Click the "Pay and Register" button. If you chose the credit card payment method, you will be taken to the PayPal website. You are not required to use PayPal, they are simply what we use as our merchant account.

After you register, you will receive a registration packet via email. This will give you your carver number and carving entry form. To expedite registration on Friday or Saturday morning, please have your entry form filled out.

The rules and the categories are also included in the attachment.

We look forward to seeing you at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Showcase of Woodcarvings.



**Peter Ortel**  
**June 27, 1940-Oct 28, 2022**  
**FDNY 1966-1987**  
**Longtime club member**

Peter at the 2015 Wild Acers retreat





**Bob Gerbe**  
President

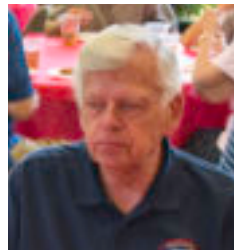
# Club Officers



**Bill Robinson**  
Vice President



**Steve Stillitano**  
Board Member



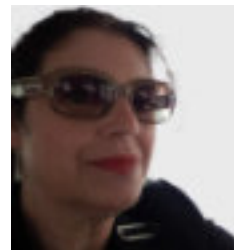
**Neil Zyp**  
Membership  
Committee



**Tom Bowling**  
Secretary



**David McDaniel**  
Board Member



**Lisa Murphy-Stafford**  
Showcase  
Committee



**Rich DiFranco**  
Treasurer



**Rocky Piano**  
Board Member



**Lee Servatius**  
Board Member



**Neil McGuire**  
Editor